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THE MONTHLY GULL BULLETIN

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

VOLUME 14 SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH, 1932 NUMBER 3

Mockingbird in San Francisco

This is to record the appearance of a Western Mockingbird, *Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*, in my garden on Vallejo Street near Gough, San Francisco, California, just before dusk on January 28, 1932. Happening to look out of my living room window I was greatly surprised to see one of these birds perched on top of a two-foot sunshade-socket, about seven feet from me. It soon flew down to the ground to pick up something, then into my brother's yard adjoining mine, then back again and finally flew away. I had time, however, to call to a friend in the house—a one-time resident of Santa Barbara and familiar with the species—to witness this appearance and to assure me that I was not dreaming. This bird was seen again on February 3, in the same garden, and remained this time for about ten minutes.

Joseph Mailliard, San Francisco, California.

Birds of the Yosemite at Christmas Time

The following is a census of birds taken at Yosemite, California, on December 26, 1931, from 8 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Weather—cloudy, no wind, 6 to 24 inches of snow; intermittent flurries of snow throughout the day, this being the seventh day of severe storm; temperature maximum 36°, minimum 26°; four observers separated, covering about two square miles. Mr. Cliff Presnall being out all day, C. A. Harwell and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Michael about one and one-half hours each.

California Blue Heron 2; Mallard 3; Ring-necked Duck 2; Western Belted Kingfisher 1; Modoc Hairy Woodpecker 1; Willow Woodpecker 2; Nuttall Woodpecker 2; Northern White-headed Woodpecker 2; California Woodpecker 33; Red-shafted Flicker 3; Blue-fronted Jay 83; Plain Titmouse 7; Short-tailed Mountain Chickadee 98; California Bush-tit 10; Slender-billed Nuthatch 11; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Pygmy Nuthatch 1; Sierra Creeper 2; Dotted Canyon Wren 1; Western Robin 1; Western Bluebird 15; Western Golden-crowned Kinglet 111; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 6; Sacramento Towhee 14; Slate-colored Junco 3; Sierra Junco 140. Twenty-six species, 556 individuals. (Ducks examined with 6 power glass at 50 yards, white band noted on bills of Ring-necked Ducks.)

Water Ouzels

I spent two hours with the Water Ouzels, Monday afternoon, January 25, at Valley View. It was crisp and cold with most beautiful ice crystals everywhere on logs and trees. Three Water Ouzels were present feeding as though it were the height of summer. I watched one feeding from the edge of the ice, diving into the water, which was about two feet deep and very clear. He used the ice for a take-off just as though it always belonged there. Another one feeding from the shallow water seemed to be able to get little food. I made several counts, three of which are typical of all the others. The bird submerged twelve times in twenty seconds, rested ten seconds; submerged eight times in fifteen seconds, rested twelve seconds; submerged twelve times in twenty seconds. During the two hours I observed them the birds remained along a stretch of river not more than

200 yards. The one feeding in the deep water was within thirty yards of the last summer's nesting site.

It surely was interesting to see these birds so much at home, while we, heavily clothed, were tramping around in the deep snow.

A Great Blue Heron within short range formed a lovely silhouette as he stood on the edge of the black water outlined against the bank of snow. Just as I crept up near him to get a photograph with my Graflex I discovered I had shot my last film at the Water Ouzels.

C. A. Harwell, Park Naturalist, Yosemite National Park, California.

Census of Birds' Nests in the Music Concourse, Golden Gate Park

The leaves stayed late on the trees this year in the Music Concourse and then came much rain, so that the census of nests was not accomplished until January 8. It is a sad one! Five nests either unfinished, or only begun in a couple of cases, and one nest completed but either robbed or not used at all. It looks as if this were the last of nesting in the trees of the concourse.

Joseph Mailliard, San Francisco, California.

Treasurer's Report

Commercial Account.		
Balance January 2, 1931		$ 74.35
Receipts:		
Dues for the year 1931	$311.50	
Dues for the year 1932	33.00	
Subscriptions "The Gull" for 1931	9.75	
Subscriptions "The Gull" for 1932	3.00	
Sales of back numbers of "The Gull"	.70	
Extra copies of the June number	1.50	
Book, "Birds of Golden Gate Park"	1.50	360.95
		$435.30
Expenditures:		
Publishing "The Gull"	$234.00	
Extra copies of the June number	1.50	
Envelopes and stamps	43.60	
Membership cards	6.75	
Ledger cards	.75	
Letterheads	16.50	
Application blanks	17.50	
Programs for lecture series	19.50	
P. G. & E. lantern service	20.00	
Book, "Birds of Golden Gate Park"	1.50	
Dues National Association of Audubon Societies	5.00	
Refund to Mr. Dunshee over-payment	1.00	
Christmas gift to janitor	5.00	
	$372.60	
Balance in Commercial Account January 3, 1932	61.95	
Cash on hand January 3, 1932	.75	$435.30
Savings Account.		
Balance January 3, 1931	$479.87	
Interest year of 1931	18.13	$498.00
Total Account.		
Balance Commercial Account January 2, 1932	$ 61.95	
Cash on hand January 2, 1932	.75	
Savings Account	498.00	$560.70

Memberships for 1931—Honorary 9, Life 13, Active 132.

Laura A. Stephens, Treasurer.

February Field Trip was taken on Sunday, the 14th, by motor bus to Burlingame; thence out Easton Drive to the top of Buriburi Ridge, where luncheon was eaten, then continuing over the ridge and up the valley to San Andreas Lake, following the east shore to the keeper's house.

An ideal spring day afforded a perfect outing for the fifty-one members and guests present. But, in spite of more favorable weather, three fewer species were noted than last year.

As usual, more than half of the number of species noted for the entire trip were found along Easton Drive where houses are close together. Eleven species of Sparrows and four of Warblers were perfectly at home with their human, and apparently humane neighbors. Here, too, were Kinglets, Thrushes and Hummingbirds.

Farther along, three Creepers on one tree afforded an interesting observation. Robins, in much greater numbers than usual, were noted all along the trip. Hermit Thrushes, seldom seen far from trees or shrubs, were noted, several times feeding out in the open.

This was our twelfth annual trip to this region. Golden-crowned Kinglets had been noted only once before, in 1925; Myrtle Warblers, in 1926; Townsend Warblers only twice, in 1922 and 1924. The Spotted Sandpiper, first noted in 1924, then absent till 1928, has been, since then, regularly on our lists. The House Sparrow, apparently, has been accepted recently by Burlingame society. His name did not appear on our lists until 1930. Since then, he, too, has been regularly on our lists.

The Snipe, Burrowing Owl, Sapsucker, Violet-green Swallow, Slender-billed Nuthatch and Dusky Warbler, new on our list this year, make a total of ninety species noted to date for this region.

A total of sixty-seven species was noted, as follows:

Eared Grebe
Western Grebe
Pied-billed Grebe
Farallon Cormorant
Great Blue Heron
Canvas-back Duck
Buffle-head Duck
Surf Scoter
Ruddy Duck
American Merganser
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Sparrow Hawk
California Quail
American Coot
Wilson Snipe
Spotted Sandpiper
California Gull
Burrowing Owl
Anna Hummingbird
Allen Hummingbird
Red-shafted Flicker
California Woodpecker
Red-breasted Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Say's Phoebe
Black Phoebe
Horned Lark
Violet-green Swallow
Steller Jay
California Jay
Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Plain Titmouse
Bush-tit
Slender-billed Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Wren-tit
Bewick's Wren
Robin
Varied Thrush
Hermit Thrush
Western Bluebird
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Pipit
Cedar Waxwing
Shrike
Hutton Vireo
Dusky Warbler
Myrtle Warbler
Audubon Warbler
Townsend Warbler
House Sparrow
Meadowlark
Brewer's Blackbird
Purple Finch
Linnet
Pine Siskin
Green-backed Goldfinch
Spotted Towhee
Brown Towhee
Savannah Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Junco
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Nuttall Sparrow
Song Sparrow

C. A. Bryant, historian.

Saturday Study Trip was taken on January 14th, to the University of California campus, Berkeley. It was a clear day but very windy. A group of thirteen members and nine guests attended, observing seventeen species of birds as follows:

Anna Hummingbird; Red-shafted Flicker; California Jay; Bush-tit; Western Robin; Varied Thrush; Dwarf Hermit Thrush; Pipit; Black-throated Gray and Tonwsend Warblers; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Brown Towhee; Junco; Fox, Golden-crowned, Nuttall and Song Sparrows.

Arthur H. Myer, Leader.

February Trip. The extra February field trip was taken on the 14th, to Golden Gate Park, Cliff House and Land's End. Four members and six guests attended and observed thirty-five species of birds as follows:

Pied-billed Grebe; California Brown Pelican; Mallard, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Canvas-back, Lesser Scaup, Buffle-head and Ruddy Ducks; White-winged and Surf Scoters; Quail; Coot; Surf Bird; Black Turnstone; Sanderling; Glaucous, Glaucous-winged, Western and California Gulls; Anna Hummingbird; Red-shafted Flicker; Black Phoebe; Chestnut-backed Chickadee; Bush-tit; Western Robin; Varied and Dwarf Hermit Thrushes; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Audubon Warbler; Brewer's Blackbird; Spotted Towhee; Point Pinos Junco; Fox and Song Sparrows. Carl Smith, leader.

Audubon Notes

March Meeting will be held on Thursday evening, the 10th, at 8 o'clock, room 19, Ferry Building.

The speaker of the evening will be Dr. Gayle Pickwell of the San Jose State Teachers' College. Subject: "Nest Protective Reactions of Birds and Self-protective Reactions of Nestlings." The lecture will be illustrated.

March Field Trip will be taken to Pt. Bonita on the 13th. Buy round-trip ticket to Sausalito, 25c, and take 8:15 ferry. In an endeavor to improve the trip we will take the busses at Sausalito and ride to the Lighthouse, visiting it first and then return to Sausalito on foot. Bus fee 50c additional.

March Study Trip will be taken on the 19th in the direction of Tennessee Cove, Marin County. Purchase round-trip ticket to Manzanita, 48c, and take 1:15 Sausalito Ferry. Leader, Miss Cornelia C. Pringle.

Dues. The dues for 1932 are now payable. If you have not sent in your check do it now and save the Treasurer the work of writing you for it.

February Meeting: The 179th regular meeting was held on February 11th, in room 19, Ferry Building, with fifty-three members and guests present. President Brighton C. Cain presiding.

The following new members were elected:

Miss Yvonne J. Winslow, Berkeley; Miss Jean A. Hunt and Vincent Mowbray of Oakland; Mrs. Fannie E. Squires and Mrs. Lillian M. Goldsmith of San Francisco.

Field observations were reported as follows:

Mrs. Otis H. Smith: January 15, Lansdale, fifteen Evening Grosbeaks; January 18, thirty, and February 11, Winship Park, Ross, fifteen.

Harold Swanton: January 21, Oakland, great numbers of Robins, among them one pure white with pale pink on the breast. February 8, Townsend Solitaire.

F. M. Jencks: January 30, Lakeside Park, Mockingbird; January 22, Oakland, Townsend Solitaire, and on the 31st, one in Mountain View Cemetery.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. H. S. Swarth of the California Academy of Sciences, who gave an illustrated talk upon "A Sub-Arctic Summer," covering a vacation spent at Atlin, British Columbia.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President	Brighton C. Cain	221 Thayer Bldg., Oakland
Corresponding Secretary	C. B. Lastreto	260 California St., San Francisco
Treasurer	Mrs. A. B. Stephens	1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.
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Membership dues, payable January 1st, $3.00 per year.
Student memberships, $1.50 per year. Life memberships, $50.00
Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer